A Short

DESCRIPTION
OF THE
True Ministers and the False

How they Differ in their Call, Ministry, Doctrine and Fruits; that any that are desirous may know the one from the other.

Also, Something concerning the Apostacy, and Departing from the Faith and Power of God, which was in the Apostles dayes.

How the Woman fled into the Wilderness, where she had a Place prepared her of GOD:

The False Church and Antichrist got up in Her stead.

The Woman's Return Witnessed, with the Fall of Antichrist and the False Church.

Something further concerning the True Ministers of Jesus, Testified by One that hath been a True Witness of all that he has here written.

F. Aynsloe.

Luke 9. 1, 2. *He called his Twelve Disciples together, and* gave *them* Power *and Authority over all Devils; and he* sent *them to preach the Kingdom of God, &c.* [But of the False Prophets its said]

Jer. 23. 21. *I have* not sent *these Prophets, yet they Run; I have* not *spoken to them, yet they Prophesied.*

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AN EPISTLE TO THE READER.

FRIEND,

LEt it not seem a strange thing to thee, nor a small thing in thine Eye, that God hath appeared in these latter dayes in his large Loving-kindness unto the Sons of Men, to discover again that which hath been hid from Ages and Generations past, by reason of the long and dark Night of Apostacy, which did cover all as a Vail over the Heart, since the Apostles dayes; in which the true Church hath been in the Wilderness, and the true Ministers not known; and the false Church and false Ministers got up in their place, and Antichrist hath been worshipped, and the Beast and false Prophet born rule; and all that time the Lord was as a Stranger in the Earth, and his Appearance by his Light and Spirit was known but to a very Few; so that it was taken for granted by most people, That Revelation was Ceased; and that no other Knowledge of God was to be looked for, then from the Scriptures; being Ignorant of him of whom the Scriptures testified Christ Jesus, the true Light, that lighteth every man that comes into the world, that all through the Light might believe: This Key of Knowledge being vailed from the people, and Humane Learning and Tradition instead thereof hath been admired and followed by the most of people (in the Night of Apostacy) as the Only Way to the Know-

ledge of God, *which is the Cauſe why people are ſo ignorant of God, and Spiritual Worſhip*; Crying up Lifeleſs Forms for Religion, and the Inventions and Traditions of Men for True Worſhip; *withſtanding (as much as in them lies)* the Powerful Appearance of the Lord, *in this the Day of his Power, wherein he hath appeared to bring every thing into its right courſe again; and hath raiſed up (by his Power) Miniſters and Witneſſes again, as in the Apoſtles dayes, enduing them with Power from on High*, That they may be Inſtruments in his Hand to turn many from Darkneſs to his Bleſſed Light, that ſhines in the Heart, to give the Knowledge of the Glory of God in the Face of Jeſus Chriſt: *And many are gathered unto the Lord, and into the Worſhip of the Spirit, and are taught of God, and bear their Teſtimony to the Truth, as it is in Jeſus; and God is ſtill adding to the Number of his Choſen People, notwithſtanding all Oppoſition*, that the Excellency of the Power (*by which he carrieth on his Work*) may be ſeen to be of God, and not of Man; *to him only be the Glory and Honour forevermore.*

J. A.

A Short

A Short Deſcription of the True Miniſters, and the Falſe; how they differ in their Call, Miniſtry, Doctrine and Fruits; that any, who are deſirous, may know the one from the other, &c.

TRue Miniſters are called of God, as the Apoſtles were; and God hath committed to them now the Word of Reconciliation, as the Apoſtles had; and they are now ſent of God, To preach Glad-tidings to the Poor, and Peace and Good-will unto men; To Proclaim the Day of the Lord to all that ſit in Darkneſs, and under the ſhadow of Death; Preaching to the Spirits in Priſon, that the Priſon-Doors may be opened, and the Priſoner of Hope come forth out of the Priſon-Houſe, that the Clouds of Darkneſs may fall of, and the Bonds of Iniquity may be broken; that many may be turned from Darkneſs to Light, from Satan's power to God: And freely they have received, and freely they miniſter; coveting no man's Silver, or Gold nor Apparrel, no more then the Apoſtles did. And they preach Chriſt Jeſus, not themſelves; but the ſame Jeſus that was Crucified without the Gates of *Jeruſalem*, that Roſe again the Third Day, and Aſcended up into Glory, and is at the Right-Hand of God, far above all Principalities and Powers, according as the Scriptures declare.

And they preach him as they have received him; for they did not know him by the reading of the Scriptures, no more then *Paul* did by reading of the Law; but as he is revealed in them: And their Eyes do ſee, and their Ears do hear, and their Hands do handle the Good Word of God, which they declare unto others: And God hath given them a Good Underſtanding, that they know him that is True, even Jeſus Chriſt, whom

whom God hath sent: And they have not laboured in vain, as those who have beat the Air; but have been Instruments in God's Hands, to turn many from the Evil of their Wayes, to walk in the Light of the Lord; and are brought to know and dwell in that City, even the New *Jerusalem*, which is from above, that has no need of the light of the Sun by Day, nor of the Moon by Night, but the Lamb is the Light thereof.

And the true Ministers need no Humane Authority, to Authorize their Ministry; for they have a Witness in every man's Conscience: Neither are their Mouthes stopped with the Commands of men, neither are they afraid to appear for God in their publick Testimony, in preaching the Everlasting Gospel, though Laws of great Penalties be made against them; but rather are made willing to adventure all, whatever is dear and near unto them in this World, then to incur the Displeasure of their Lord and Master, Jesus Christ, or to bring the Blood of any upon them; for they Labour Night and Day with the Lord, in the Travel of their Spirits, that they may be clear of the Blood of all men; going from Country to Country as they are moved (with their Lives in their hands) that they may preach the Everlasting Gospel to all that dwell upon the Earth.

The False Ministers are such as are brought up at *Universities*, and are Seven Years studying *Philosophy*, *&c.* and are made Masters of their Arts; and from Humane Learning is their Ministry; and for their Gain is their Call; and are only sent of Man, being Ordained by Man, and then have Licence to preach. They are onely Ministers of Traditions, and their own Conceptions on the Letter (not of the Spirit) having only a Form, but denying the Power; calling the Letter *the Gospel*, and preferring the Letter before the Spirit, and putting it in the Spirit's place, calling it, *the Word of God*; saying, *There is no other Way to come to the Knowledge of God*; so are boasting of another man's Lines made ready to their hands: and are saying, *Thus saith the Lord*, when he never spake to them, as the False Prophets did in the dayes of old; denying Revelation, or any Immediate Call from God, as the Apostles had, saying, *There*

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is no such thing to be looked for now; that was Extraordinary, and is Ceased.

And are such as are alwayes Teaching, and People never the better, bringing nothing to Perfection; saying, *There is no Freedom from Sin on this side the Grave*: And Denying the Light (that convinceth of Sin) to be sufficient to lead to Life and Salvation; calling it, *Natural and Insufficient*; like the Unbelieving *Jews*, who said, *Is not this the Carpenter's Son?*

They say, *That Sprinkling of Infants upon the Face is Baptism*; setting up that in the place of the *Baptism of the Spirit*. They call Bread and Wine *the Lord's Supper*, being ignorant of the Bread of Life, and the Communion of Saints in the Sanctifying Spirit. And thus much, in short, concerning their *Call*, *Ministry* and *Doctrine*.

Now I shall shew their *Marks* and *Fruits*, Christ saying, *By their Fruits ye shall know them*: They are such as go in Long Robes, and have the Highest Place in the Synagogues, and are called of men *Master*, and have the Uppermost Rooms at Feasts, and have men's Persons in Admiration because of Advantage. *Matthew 23.*

They Preach for Hire, they have Gift and Rewards for their preaching, they can't afford it for Nothing having bought it for Money; they take Tythes, imitating the Priests in the Law; they Sue men at the Law that cannot put into their Mouthes; they cast men into Prison for the Exercise of their Consciences; they stir up the Magistrates to Persecution, saying, *They must Defend their Gospel, or else it will Fall*; using the *Carnal Weapon* against the *Outward Man*. *Jude's Epistle*

All which are contrary to the *Scriptures of Truth*, and *Practices* of the *Ministers of Christ*, in former Ages, and in this Age: *Their Weapons were not Carnal, but Spiritual, mighty through God, to the bringing down of the Strong Holds of the Man of Sin.*

They must have *Letters Patent* from the *Bishop*, or some other Man, or Men, before they can or must Preach; and then they Read or Preach by the *Hour-Glass*, at a certain Place or Time, as they are ordered by Men.

They despise *Prophecying*; and if any are moved to go into the Place of their Worship, in the Time of their Worship, to speak

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in the Name of the Lord, they call that *A Disturbance*; calling to the *Officer* or *Magistrate, to take him or her away, and sent to Prison*; allowing none to speak but themselves, contrary to the Orders of the Churches of Christ; *who might all speak one by one.*

They are *Changeable, as the Powers of the Earth change*; and are *Silenc'd if Man commands them*; and take away their *Gain, their Gospel ceaseth*; and if the *Magistrate* take away his *Shoulder*, and men were not *Forced, few would put into their Mouthes.*

By these their *Fruits, Marks, Doctrines, Ministry* and *Call*, they may very easily be known who they are, by any that are desirous to find them out: [*For*] *the Light of the Lord is come, and the Glory of the Lord is appeared, to discover every False Way and Thing, and nothing is hid from his All-seeing Eye; and he is making it known to those that believe in his Light, and follow him in the Regeneration; for the Night is past unto many, and the Day of the Lord is broken forth, in which Perfect Freedom is known from the Yoak of Bondage, Sin being fled away as the Morning Cloud; and the Glory of the Lord doth rest upon his Tabernacle; and the Sons of the Morning Rejoyce together; and Praise waits for the Lord in* Sion. But this is hard to be believed by most of the Sons of men; Night having been their Habitation, and Darknes over them so long, that they look not for any other state, willingly contented in that in which they are, in a *Receiving* of things they preach by a Report of others; some believing, *That there is a God, because the Scriptures say so*, having no desire of further Knowledg or Fellowship with Him; and that is the Ground or In-let to all Liberty in Sin and False Worshipping, every man's Way seeming Right in his own Eyes, he being (or at least, would be) sole Judge in all things that pass in his own Mind, and would not admit of any other Judgment, or Judge, to be near him, for to reprove or condemn him for the Evil of his Wayes; *but would go on without Controle, passing away his Precious Time in daily sinning against the Lord, taking no notice of any Reproof or Call from the Lord to forsake the Evil of his Wayes:* And the long continuance in this state hath prov'd very Dangerous, that many are got into a Belief, *That it will not be otherwise with them*; nor can they believe, *That it is otherwise with any.*

Which Conclusion ariseth from the Counsel of their own dark Hearts, Darkness being as a Vail over the Heart, the Eye of the Under-

Understanding being blinded by the God of this World; O! how sad and lamentable is the Case of all such! They would not that Christ should have any place in their hearts, or they come into Obedience unto him; but are like to the Unbelieving *Jews*, who said, *We will not have this Man to Rule over us*; and at last did chuse a *Barrabas*, rather then a *Jesus*; and this is the state of many now call'd *Christians, who choose rather to have their Murdering Lusts, to live in them, then Christ Jesus the Saviour*; *and following the spirit of Persecution, and Sin-pleasing Doctrine for Term of Life*, [*rather*] *then the meek and self-denying Jesus, his Spiritual Appearance in the Heart, in their Self-denyal, and taking up the daily Cross, which seems to them unpossible to be done*; choosing rather, *to please themselves and others with a Talk thereof*: and if that would serve, Christ would have a great many that would follow him, the Way being broad, giving what Liberty to the Flesh it desires, to the fulfilling of the Lusts of it. [*But*] *the Way is Narrow that leads to Life, and admits of nothing that is of Self, or Flesh, or any thing that tendeth to such Liberty; but of a Birth born of the Spirit, who delights in Holiness, and cannot live in Sin, who runs with Chearfulness, despising the Shame because of the Glory that is set before it, Christ Jesus being the Mark of its high calling, believing God, that its Covenant is order'd aright unto it, and sure*; though it meet with many Enemies, Tryals and Hardships by the way, and Reproaches and Scoffs not a few, [even] from those that are ready to say, as the *Jews* did, *We have* Abraham *to our Father*: yet this Birth Immortal, having receiv'd the Blessing of the Dew of Heaven, is not discouraged; though they that have the Fatness of the Earth for their Portion, make more Noise and greater Shew in this World, & labour what in them lieth to stir up Enemies against this Blessed Innocent Seed, and to Persecute all those where its Apperance is. But this is my Testimony concerning it, *They shall never prevail, no Weapon formed against it shall Prosper, their striving against it is to no Purpose, they only making themselves Manifest what spirit they are of*: For the Lord God Omnipotent hath raised it up in this the Day of his Power, that it may bear witness to his Name, through his Faithful Witnesses, in whose Hearts God hath raised it up, by his own Mighty Power and Out-stretched Arm, after a Long and Dark Night of Apostacy, since the Apostles dayes, which soon (after the Apostles)

did creep in; only having the Form without the Power, loſt the Life of Religion, and Motion of the Spirit of Life in the Inward Man, which was to be Guide unto all Spiritual Worſhip and Obedience unto God, according to Chriſt's Saying, *The Time cometh, and now is, that he that worſhippeth the Father, muſt worſhip him in Spirit and in Truth*: This being loſt by many ſince the Apoſtles dayes, and never known by others, hath been the great Cauſe, Ground and Riſe of the many Sorts and Forms of Religion, made in man's Will, and he giving way to his own Self-will, the Enemy of his Soul did eaſily prevail with him to be of that Form of Religion which moſt ſuited the Inclinations of his Heart, blinding the Eyes of his Underſtanding, and made him Inſenſible of the many inward Strivings of the Lord with him; and although Reproved in ſecret, yet not regarded, or at leaſt, not believed it to be the *Grace*, *Light*, and *Spirit of God*: ſo that the Continuance of the Apoſtacy and Unbelief, that came in by it, were from one Generation to another, out of the Remembrance of the Appearance of the Lord, of his being near to man, or of Jeſus Chriſt Within; they grew into the Subtilty of the Serpent, and having eaten of the forbidden Fruit, got unto himſelf Coverings of his own making; *ſerving only himſelf, and his own Intereſt, that he could turn to be of any Form of Religion to ſave himſelf.* [Thus] Painted *Jezebel* got up, and the Falſe Church did begin to flouriſh, with her *Falſe Teachers*, *Falſe Doctrines* and *Falſe Worſhips*; Then ſhe held forth a Golden Cup, full of Abominations, unto all Nations, Kindreds, Tongues and People; and they drank of the Wine of her Fornication, and were drunk with it; and then the Falſe Church got up, and Falſe Prophet began to ride upon the Beaſt, and they made War with the true Woman, and the Remnant of her Seed that remain'd upon the Earth; and they prevailed for a time: and the Woman, the true Church, fled into the *Wilderneſs*, where ſhe had a Place prepared her of God, and the Man-Child was caught up to God, and there ſhe remained as a Widow alone, and as a Dove without a Mate, (according as it is written) until the time of her Mourning and Widdowhood ſhould be accompliſh'd: and all this while the *Harlot*, the falſe Church, bore Rule both within and without: and all that would not receive the Mark of the *Beaſt* and of *Antichriſt*

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on their Fore-heads, and on their Right-hand, ſhould be put to Death, or ſhould not be ſuffered to Buy or Sell.

Then was ſet up *Outward Force, to Compel all to bow to their Worſhip*; for the Power and Spirit of the Lord, that was in the *Apoſtles* days, was loſt, that made peoples hearts tender, and gather'd them to God, into his Spiritual Worſhip, and the Form without the Power was ſet in its place, and ſo fell ſhort of the Power and of the Order that was in the Spirit: *Then Humane Learning, Arts and Inventions got in the Powers Place, thinking to ſupply what was wanting, which an Immitation of the true Church, and the Order that was in the Apoſtles dayes could not do.*

But finding their ſhortneſs, both in Doctrine and Converſation, that Sin and Evil had Dominion over them, and that (erring from the Spirit) they could not be without ſin; then they ſet it up, as a Foundation Doctrine, *That no man could be without Sin and Corruption on this ſide the Grave*; and this they have defended as well as they could, by Word and Writing: but where that fell ſhort, they made their Inquiſition, Fire and Faggot, and Strong Priſons, to make it out with the reſt of their Falſe Doctrines and Practices, reſolving their Tryal by *Outward Force and Compulſion.* And if any Eye were in meaſure opened, to ſee beyond any of their Dark Doctrines or Ceremonies, and ſo could not bow unto them, *then were they branded with the Name of Hereticks*; and if they would not put out that little Sight which God had given them, and become as Blind as they were, *then they Perſecuted them, and put them to Death.*

This hath been the Practice of the Falſe Church for ſeveral Hundred Years, and Examples thereof were before, and in Queen *Mary*'s days, and ſince. But now the Time is come, *That* Babylon *is come up in Remembrance before the Lord, and as ſhe has done unto others, ſo will the Lord do unto her; for, Strong is He that is riſen to judge her:* And he hath made an Entrance into her Borders, and is laying waſte her pleaſant Pictures, and diſcovering her Whoredoms, and drying up the *Tongue* of the *Egyptian-Sea*, ſo that many begin to ſuſpect her, and others do ſee *ſhe is but an Harlot*, notwithſtanding her being cover'd with *Scarlet-coloured Robes*; [ſo] ſhe ſhall not deceive the Nations much longer; and as ſhe had a time of Riſing, ſo muſt ſhe have time to Fall; and ſurely the time is at

hand, and her *Overthrow* is witneſſed in many Hearts; and as it hath been within, ſo muſt it be without. And this hath been the Ground of the many *Teſtimonies* that have been born againſt her in this Day and Generation, wherein the Lord hath appear'd in his Might and Power, beyond what hath been in times paſt, and revealed himſelf unto many by his *Light* and *Spirit*, and hath made known the *Way of Life and Salvation*, as in the Apoſtles days; and the *Man-Child* is come down from God again; and ſhe that fled into the Wilderneſs, and was Childleſs, is now coming out, leaning upon the Breaſts of her Beloved, according as it was written of her, *Rejoyce thou Barren, that diſt not bear, and break forth into Joy, thou Virgin, Daughter of* Jeruſalem; *for more ſhall be the Children of the Barren, then of the Married Wife*; and this is the Lord's bringing to paſs, that he may take away her Reproach. For many have brought forth (though a falſe Birth) while ſhe has been barren; *for none could give her Children but the Lord*; & he is wiping away her Tears, and the Time of her Mourning is coming to an end; and now the *Woman* doth appear, which *John* ſaw in the Spirit, *to be clothed with the Sun, having the Moon under her Feet*, and now is as a *Bride* preparing for her *Husband*; and ſhe is the *true Church*, the *Bride*, the *Lamb's Wife*; to her I bear my Teſtimony, to be known, and in being again; and a Son of this Woman I profeſs my ſelf to be, and of none other, of her *Faith* and *Doctrine*, of her *Life* and *Practices*; who hath no Power upon the Earth to take her part, to defend her Faith and Doctrine; *but the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb is her Defence, Covering and Shield for evermore.*

And thus in Faithfulneſs have I wrote theſe few things, as the Lord put them into my heart, for the ſake of thoſe that are inquiring after *Sion*, with their Faces ſet thitherward; that all Stumbling-blocks may be removed out of the way of the Simple; and that in Singleneſs of heart every one may cloſe in with that holy Appearance of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, in the inward of their hearts, by his Light & Spirit; and that none may reſiſt the *Day of their Viſitation*, but haſte out of *Babylon* and *Egypt*, from the *Fleſh-Pott & Garlick*, towards the Land that flows with *Milk* and *Honey*, where there are Vineyards ready planted, and Wells ready dig'd, the free Flowings forth of the Father's Love unto their Souls.

Something further as a Teſtimony concerning the True Miniſters of Jeſus Chriſt.

THat there are True and Faithful Miniſters of Jeſus Chriſt, as were in the dayes of the Apoſtles, in this Day and Generation, that do I witneſs, and bear Teſtimony unto in the Name of the Lord; who are Miniſters of the Spirit, and have miniſtred the Spirit and Spiritual things unto many; who have not fed themſelves with the Fat, but have fed the Lambs of Chriſt; having the Word of Reconciliation committed to them, and have not been ſlack in dividing it aright; judging that which was for Judgment, [but] tender in Love and Compaſſion towards the Poor and Needy; lending a Hand to the Helpleſs, and turning many to the Light and Power of God, which aboundeth in themſelves; being as Trumpets in the hands of the Lord, giving a certain Sound, that many have heard and believ'd through their Word.

They have not ſought themſelves, but the Glory of God, and the Good of all People; and God hath been with them, and made them ſucceſsful, and to ſee the Travel of their Souls, and be glad: And God hath given them Power to loſe on Earth, and it is loſened in Heaven; and to bind on Earth, and it is bound in Heaven: And they have Power over Unclean ſpirits, and their Poiſon cannot hurt them: Their Weapons are Spiritual, mighty through God, to the pulling down of the Strong Holds of the Devil; they War not with Fleſh and Blood, but againſt the Spiritual Wickedneſs in the High Places of the Heart; their Sword is the Sword of the Spirit; their Armour is the Armour of Light; their Breaſt-plate is the Breaſt-plate of Faith; and their Helmet is that of Salvation; and having put on the whole Armour of God, are furniſhed againſt all the Powers of Darkneſs: They preach not but as they are moved by the Spirit and Power of God, being ordered of him, when to Speak, and when to be Silent: They ſerve not themſelves and their own Bellies, but the Lord

Lord Jeſus Chriſt, and his Followers; not ſtriving who ſhould be Greateſt, but ſerving one another in Love. Into this Miniſtry was I called of God, in the year 1657. and ever ſince the Lord hath continued me in that Work and Service that he ſet before me, requiring of me no more but *Faithfulneſs in that I had receiv'd*; and through great Tryals, Tribulations and Exerciſes hath he preſerv'd me Faithful unto this day; Glory to God, Peace on Earth, and Good-will towards Men, *Amen*, *Amen*.

Poſtſcript.

SOme may ſay, *There are ſeveral ſorts of Profeſſions, who have Miniſters, and all of them hold forth ſome of theſe Doctrines, or have ſome of theſe Marks, and bring forth ſome of theſe Fruits; doſt thou conclude them all to be Falſe Miniſters?*

To which may be Anſwered, They that are not againſt us are with us, as Chriſt anſwered thoſe that came to complain of ſome that preached, and walked not with them.

But theſe have all appeared againſt the Lord and his People, in this the Day of his Spiritual Appearance, and have joyned together either in Word or Deed, Publick or Private, as one Man, making up one Great Image; Head, Gold; Breaſts, Silver; Thighs, Braſs; Feet, part Iron, part Clay, to withſtand the Little Stone, cut out of the Mountain without Hands; but it hath and will prevail againſt the Image: And theſe are the Sons of one Woman, differing only in Speech and Complexion, having all one and the ſame Nature, as Experience hath ſhewed: For all have Perſecuted, and ſtirred up to Perſecution, and the moſt from thoſe that had the greateſt

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Profeſſion, as largely may appear by the Sufferings of the People of the Lord (called *Quakers*) both in this Nation and elſe-where; ſeveral of them being Impriſoned by the *Prieſts* till Death, and others put to Death in *New-England*, only for the Exerciſe of a Pure Conſcience: Such things the Miniſters of Chriſt never did, neither do; but were and are ſo done unto. Theſe, with ſeveral other Reaſons, makes me conclude them all to be Falſe Miniſters.

John Aynſloe.

THE END.